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Passage; Mackay, Popular Delusions; Wingrove Cooke, China and Lower Bengal; Hone's Ancient Mysteries, and a god (S. Edwin Collingwood, Esq.).

Mr. A. HIGGINS read a paper—*On the Orthographic Projection of the Skull*, of which the following is an abstract.—The paper will appear at length in the *Memoirs.*

After alluding to one of the main obstacles to the progress of craniology, the great difficulty of bringing together such a series of specimens of any particular natural group as would justify general conclusions, the writer proceeded to consider how the scattered specimens preserved in museums might best be rendered generally available for accurate study. He argued that the method of delineation advocated by Professor Lucae in his *Zur Morphologie der Rassenschädel* afforded the best and readiest means yet devised for effecting that desirable object. This method of delineation was the geometrical one, by means of which objects are represented as they actually exist extended in space, so far as this is possible on a plane surface. He exhibited the simple apparatus used by Prof. Lucae and explained how the drawings were taken. The apparatus consisted of a horizontally suspended glass plate, under which the skull was placed, and of an instrument affording a vertical axis of vision moveable upon the plate. The author then replied to the various objections which had been raised to this mode of delineation, the principal one being the assertion that the drawings do not represent things as they appear to the eye and as they alone exist as far as we are concerned. He maintained that they do convey to the mind the same general impressions as an inspection of the solid object, and therefore answer all the purposes of perspective drawings; and that, in addition, they afford a means of comparing contours and of checking measurements such as no other substitute for the skull itself afforded.

The CHAIRMAN proposed thanks to the author of the paper, and suggested that the discussion of it should be postponed until the next paper was read, which was on a similar subject. He directed attention to some photographs on the table of the negro boy from Bunu who was exhibited at the former meeting, and especially to three photographs of the boy's hands, which showed, in the opinion of some gentlemen, an approximation to a webbed structure.

Mr. WESLEY read a paper—*On the Iconography of the Skull*—which will appear at length in the *Memoirs*; in which he recommended the ordinary perspective method of drawing instead of the geometrical system advocated by Dr. Lucae and Mr. Higgins. He considered that drawings were valuable as standing in the stead of examination of the actual skulls, and that geometrical drawings did not perfectly subserve that end, and, since they do not represent objects as they appear to the eye, are more or less unintelligible. At the same time it did not appear that geometrical drawings would ever supersede tables of measurement. A few remarks followed upon cranial drawings generally—the number of views required, the importance of